THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Presently no such proposal for Rajasthan is under consideration of the Union Government.

Condition of roads under NHDP

1500. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received *by* Government regarding bad condition of roads under NHDP; and

(b) if so, the numbers thereof and the steps taken by the NHAI for redressal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received regarding bad condition of various roads under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) from time to time. A large number of these complaints were due to damage of roads during heavy rains and poor maintenance owing to non-performance of contractors.

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has taken adequate steps to address this situation which include carrying out urgent repair work, re-surfacing, termination of contract of non-performing contractors and re-awarding the work etc. Provisions have been made in the operation & maintenance contracts to ensure that road is made traffic worthy and serviceable. Flood damage repair is also undertaken as and when required.

Cost of Golden Quadrilateral

1501. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the cost/km of the Golden Quadrilateral and how does it compare with costs in China or Thailand or Malaysia for similar roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): So far, 5640, km of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) has been 4-laned. The cumulative expenditure incurred upto January, 2008 on the entire length is Rs. 27,713.06 crores @ Rs. 4.9136 crore per km. No such comparison of costs in China, Thailand or Malaysia for similar roads has been done.

Four-Laning of NH-42 in Orissa

1502. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to four-lane NH-42, as there has been a spurt in accidents on

this Highways, particularly form Manguli Chhak to Angul in Orissa State;

(b) whether the project has been held up for paucity of funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time-frame within which this highway would be taken up for four-laning to control loss of life and property in road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Provision has been kept in the current Annual Plan for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) including feasibility study for 4-laning of NH-42 from Manguli Chhak to Angul.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The proposal for preparation of DPR including feasibility study from State Government of Orissa is awaited. It is too early to indicate the time frame within which the four-laning would be taken up.

Four-Laning of NH-8A (Extn.)

1503. SHRI SURENDRA MOTILAL PATEL:
SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time bound programme has been framed for starting and completion of the work of four-laning of Gandhidham-Mundra Section of NH-8A (Extn.); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Gandhidham-MuBdra Section of NH-8A (Extn.) has been identified for 4-laning under NHDP Phase III. At present preparation of Feasibility-cum-Preliminary Design Report is in progress. It is too early to indicate the time bound programme for start and completion of the project as it depends on the financial viability and approval of the Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC). The target date for completion of NHDP Phase III Projects is December, 2013.

Outsourcing of management of ships by SCI

1504. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) had decided to outsource management of 30 ships to private companies;